

## Dawn Huntley

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**From:** Mélodie Pimentel <melodie@melodiepimentel>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2025 9:38 PM  
**To:** House Municipal Government and Housing Committee  
**Subject:** In SUPPORT of House Bill 5799 (Oversized Lot Subdivisions)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Chair Stephen Casey and the Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing to urge your **support for House Bill 5799**, which would simplify the process of subdividing oversized lots, unlocking the potential for new home construction across Rhode Island. In neighborhoods throughout our state, double lots are a common sight, yet restrictive local ordinances prevent property owners from building new homes on this surplus land. This represents a significant missed opportunity to expand our housing stock at a time when we desperately need solutions.

Rhode Island is facing a severe housing shortage — ranking second in the nation for the slowest housing growth. This crisis hits Rhode Islanders hard, driving up housing costs and making it increasingly difficult for families, young people, and seniors to find affordable homes. The shortage is also a key contributor to rising inflation, affecting the cost of living for all residents. House Bill 5799 offers a practical fix by streamlining the cumbersome subdivision process, making it faster and easier for property owners to create new buildable lots. This would pave the way for much-needed homes, help stabilize housing costs, and even boost local economies by creating jobs in construction and related fields.

I strongly urge the committee to vote in support of this legislation. Passing House Bill 5799 is a critical step toward alleviating our housing shortage and building a more affordable, prosperous Rhode Island for everyone. The time to act is now — our communities cannot afford to wait.

Sincerely,

**Mélodie Pimentel**  
Riverside, RI

## Dawn Huntley

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**From:** Mélodie Pimentel <melodie@melodiepimen.tel>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 10, 2025 9:41 PM  
**To:** House Municipal Government and Housing Committee  
**Subject:** In SUPPORT of House Bill 5798 (Attached Single Family Housing)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Chair Stephen Casey and the Honorable Members of the Committee,

I am writing to voice my **support for House Bill 5798**, which promotes attached single-family housing, specifically townhomes. As a resident of Riverside, RI, I believe this legislation offers a practical and much-needed solution to our state's housing challenges, benefiting families, seniors, and builders alike.

For many Rhode Islanders, finding an affordable home that meets their needs feels like an uphill battle. H5798 addresses this by making it easier for families to purchase starter homes and for seniors to downsize without leaving the communities they love. Townhomes strike a perfect balance — offering enough space for growing families or a manageable option for retirees, all while keeping costs lower than many traditional single-family homes. This bill would help ensure that people at different stages of life can stay rooted in Rhode Island.

Rhode Island deserves housing solutions that work for everyone — families starting out, seniors staying close to home, and builders ready to meet the demand. H5798 delivers on all fronts. I urge the committee to vote in favor of this bill and take a meaningful step toward making homeownership a reality for more of our neighbors.

Sincerely,

**Mélodie Pimentel**  
Riverside, RI